



# New Zealand Polocrosse Inc

www.nzpolocrosse.com

## NOTICES TO CLUBS JUNE 2022



Dear Club Secretary,

**Please forward information on to your members.**

# AGM

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

### **AGM:**

The 2022 New Zealand Polocrosse AGM will be held on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2022 at the Velodrome in Cambridge. The start time will be 11.00am.

The year the Board rotations see Craig Zielinski and Gary Malcolm due to stand down, although both are eligible to re stand if they wish to. Associations should be starting to think about any remits or Board nominations that they would want to put forward. Remits and nominations need to be into the Board Secretary by the 24<sup>th</sup> August 2022.

There will be a conference at the conclusion of the AGM along with light refreshments.

**DATE:** Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2022  
**VENUE:** Grassroots Velodrome,  
15 Hanlin Road  
Cambridge (*We have been there before*)  
**TIME:** 11.00am

***A separate AGM Notice will be sent out with additional information.***

**Term of Office of Board Members:** Subject to Rule 16.8 the term of office for all Elected Board Members shall be three (3) years, expiring on conclusion of the relevant AGM. The election of Elected Board Members shall be rotated so that two (2) Board members are elected in year one and year two; with one (1) Board member being elected in the third year to ensure continuity of some Elected Board Members on the Board.

The current Board rotation sees -

2022 – Gary Malcolm and Craig Zielinski due to stand down.

2023 – Two other members to stand down (Russell Tye, Nicky Schrafft, Andrew Fowler), with the third member rolling over for one more year.

2024 – The one remaining Board member will stand down.

**Co-opted Board Members:** The Board has the ability to appoint up to two co-opted Board members each year, Co-opted Board Members may be appointed at any time by the Board. Ideally, these positions are used to appoint people that have specific and relevant skills, qualifications and experience that are likely to add value and benefit to the activities and decisions of the elected Board members and the sport but they can be used to give people knowledge of the workings of the Board, for succession planning or at the discretion of the Board. The term of office for co-opted Board Members shall be the period from their appointment until the conclusion of the first AGM following such appointment. A co-opted Board Member may be reappointed to the Board for further terms of office.



### **OVERSEAS TOURS:**

Finally, we are back being able to travel! We have had three teams travel to Australia recently and another one due to go soon, with all teams playing International Test Series against Australian teams. We look forward to being able to extend invitations to state and international teams to travel to New Zealand in the coming seasons.

**New Zealand Open Men's and Ladies Teams:** The weather was the real winner of these two Adina ANZAC test series being played at Warwick, with play being cancelled after two games. Although disappointing, our teams still did us proud, not giving up and all players learning from the experience playing against very strong, competitive Australian teams in atrocious conditions.

**Men's:** Dwayne McKay, Jarrod Richardson, Jessee Kereopa, Jesse Hill, Jack Kinder, Josh Sims-Fowler and Ty Murray.

**Ladies:** Beth Peaker, Nadine Moore, Ella Quinlan, Mirren Tye, Grace Tye, Mae Watson and Kayla Murray.

**Management:** Shane Hill (Coach), Rick Murray (Assistant Coach), Nicky Schrafft (Manager), Jemma Murray (Assistant Manager), Tony Schrafft & Dean Hamilton (NZ Umpires).

**Under 21's:** The Under 21's took on the Australian Under 21's at Coolah; hosted by Sydney Polocrosse on the 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> June 2022. Australia won the test series (winning all three games) but again it was great to be back playing against the best in the World, riding some amazing horses and learning heaps along the way.

**Players:** Kayla Murray, Layla Collins, Melissa Marlow, Mae Watson, Josh Sims-Fowler, Ty Murray, Dan Morgan and Zane Neill.

**Management:** Rick Murray (Coach), Beth Peaker (Assistant Coach), Sheree Marlow (Manager), Tony Schrafft (NZ Umpire).

**Juniors:** Our New Zealand Juniors will be travelling to Narrabri on the 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> July 2022, where they will also take on an International Australian Junior team. As for the above teams, this will be a big ask of our young players when you consider that the Australian Coaches have ALL of Australia to pick their team from. Our Junior team consists of –

**Players:** Akaysha Zielinski, Tara Gower, Ashleigh Jobe, Jade Davidson, Liam Zielinski, Curtis Gower, Wade Morey and Joel Watson.

**Management:** Dean Gower (Coach), Pip Jobe (Manager), Donna Watson (Assistant Manager). NZ Umpire tbc

**After the Tour:** All players are asked to complete the "Survey Monkey" survey upon their return to New Zealand as this, along with reports from Coaches and Managers, helps with the evaluation and development of our Coaches and Managers, and helps the Board and the Coaching Panel, in the decision making process for the future of New Zealand Polocrosse – what worked well, what didn't, what do we need to work on, was the tour beneficial - if not why not etc.

### **WORLD CUP:**

**Venue & Date:** New Zealand Polocrosse has received confirmation from the International Polocrosse Council (IPC) that the 6<sup>th</sup> Polocrosse World Cup, due to be held in South Africa in July 2023, will now take place in **July 2024** (official dates yet to be provided) at the **Shongweni** venue, in **South Africa**.

**Management Team:** New Zealand Polocrosse has extended the current term of the New Zealand Open Coach - Shane Hill, Manager - Nicky Schrafft and the Selectors (Shane Hill, Nicky Schrafft and John Zielinski) through to the conclusion of the 2024 Polocrosse World Cup. *IF* the World Cup date is changed again to a further year out, then the New Zealand Polocrosse Board will review this decision.

**Player Eligibility & Selection Criteria:** A reminder to ALL players wishing to be considered for selection for the World Cup team, and all other New Zealand representative teams, to familiarise yourself with the Eligibility Criteria (copied below) AND the Selection Criteria stipulated for specific teams / tours.



**Costs to Participate in Travelling Teams:** We all know that there is a cost to travel, even as part of a team – so if you are wanting to be considered for any future NZ teams then why not start thinking about trying to save some funds for this now? Although fundraising does help with travel costs, you can help yourself by looking at starting your own savings scheme, putting away a little bit of money here and there – taking up a part time job, selling firewood etc. If you don't make the team, then think of the savings that you will have!

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### **JUNIOR SCHOLARSHIPS:**

It is great news for our 2022 Junior Scholarships that they can travel to Australia now that all travel restrictions have been lifted! Jade Davidson, from the Otorohanga Polocrosse Club, will be travelling to Queensland where she will be hosted by the Bowden family and Wade Morey, from the Kaikohe Polocrosse Club, is travelling to New South Wales and will be hosted by the Finlayson family.

Both Junior Scholarship players have received their jackets from NZ Polocrosse and, as both players are also in the New Zealand Junior team, they will either be travelling over with the NZ Junior team and then staying on in Australia to play against Australia or going earlier than the team, and then meeting up with the team at Narrabri.

We look forward to having a report back from these two young players on their experiences and encourage all Junior players to be thinking about applying for these scholarships early next year.

**Host Families for 2022 –** With the Junior Scholarship programme back under way we can be expecting three Australian players to be coming to New Zealand in early 2023 (usually they arrive just after Christmas / New Year) so we will be looking for families to host these players.

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### **CARNIVAL DATES for 202 – 2023 Season:**

Clubs are asked to submit their carnival dates for 2022-2023 **by the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022** (to the Board Secretary at – [nzpolocrosse@gmail.com](mailto:nzpolocrosse@gmail.com)) so that a draft calendar can be distributed prior to the AGM, allowing Clubs to discuss dates between themselves.



## **NATIONAL FIXTURES:**

**Expressions of Interest to host the Juniors & Intermediates** are being called for and these are to be into the Board Secretary by the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022 – [nzpolocrosse@gmail.com](mailto:nzpolocrosse@gmail.com).

Clubs or Associations wanting to put in EOI to host the Juniors & Intermediates need to be aware of the expectation to host a Coaching Camp (with input and assistance from the Coaching Panel) prior to the event.

After winning the 2022 Roke trophy, the **Putaruru-Tirau Polocrosse Club** has regained the right to host the **2023 Roke & Rockwood Competition** and, as per the rotation below, **Wanganui-Waimarino Polocrosse Association** will be hosting the **Inter Association Championships in 2023**.

### **Rotation for Inter Association Championships -**

- 2023 – Wanganui-Waimarino
- 2024 – Northland
- 2025 – King Country
- 2026 – Waikato



## **SPONSORS CARNIVAL:**

The Board is calling for Expressions of Interest from a Club or Association to HOST the Sponsors Carnival in 2023. The aim is to have a committee carry out the main organising of the event and as per normal all Clubs will be asked to help and contribute to the running of the event. The Board, in conjunction with the Coaching Panel, will be looking to extend invitation(s) to an overseas team as a main drawcard for the event, with the rest of the carnival being run along the same lines as this year's one, with all other players being mixed up between the teams.

Any Club or Association that would be able to host the Sponsors Carnival (providing the venue etc) is asked to forward their EOI to the Board Secretary by email to [nzpolocrosse@gmail.com](mailto:nzpolocrosse@gmail.com) by the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2020 with a preferred date.



## **ALL EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST Due in by 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022**



### **EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR OFFICE HOLDERS, PANEL MEMBERS & COMMITTEES:**

There are various opportunities for individuals to be involved, and play an active part, in the administration of the sport of polocrosse at a national level. Currently the Board is calling for Expressions of Interest from people for the below, voluntary, positions –  
(Some expenses are able to be reimbursed)



**UMPIRE PANEL MEMBERS:** The Umpires Panel is made up of a minimum of 5 people appointed by the Board annually. Expressions of interest for the Umpires Panel are due in by the **1<sup>st</sup> September 2022** to the Board Secretary at [nzpolocrosse@gmail.com](mailto:nzpolocrosse@gmail.com) and must come **via a nomination from an Association**. Current panel members that wish to remain on the Umpires Panel must have their Association nominate them.

**FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE:** The Fundraising Committee are always looking for new members! This is a bit of a thankless task, but very much needed! If you are interested in helping in any way – organising fundraising events, assisting at events, helping with funding applications, have suggestions re sponsors that could be approached etc then please contact Nicky Schrafft email: [nicky26@xtra.co.nz](mailto:nicky26@xtra.co.nz)



## **HORSE TREK**

After the very successful 2020 Putaruru-Tirau Horse Trek, for many reasons (including Covid) the idea of an annual horse trek seems to have come to a stop. It would be great to have another Club take up the challenge and do a trek this year – not only are these great events, but they see people from outside of polocrosse supporting our fundraising efforts. Please contact Nicky Schrafft if your Club is interested in running a trek – contact Nicky by email at [nicky26@xtra.co.nz](mailto:nicky26@xtra.co.nz).



**CALF SCHEME:** Travis Awburn oversees this scheme and is making great progress with several calves being purchased / grazed and the first ones have already been sold! This is an ongoing fundraiser, for ALL of New Zealand Polocrosse, but with the World Cup not that far away we really need a push for this fundraiser over the next 12 months.

If you yourself can help, OR if you know of past players / members that may want to assist polocrosse by supporting this scheme then please get in contact with Travis. You may want to purchase a calf but



can't raise it – fine; you may not want to purchase a calf or have access to a calf, but you have grazing available – awesome; you'd love to raise a calf, but you won't have the grazing available to keep it on your property – not a problem – we can work around anything. If you can provide products (feed, supplement, drench, transportation) that's also great. Or, if you'd just like to make a monetary donation to help keep this scheme running – then that would also be most gratefully accepted!!!

A massive thank you to those people that have already purchased stock or are grazing stock. If you would like more information, please contact Travis – phone 021 210 2774.

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### **BOARD SNIPPETS:**

Over the past six months the Board has held several Zoom meetings to discuss issues of importance, but it was great to finally be able to have a full Board meeting, in person at Otorohanga, in April!

The Board agreed on the 2022 AGM meeting date and venue (24<sup>th</sup> September in Cambridge, at the Velodrome) and discussed who was due to stand down from the Board. The Board also discussed the advantages of filling the two - co-opted seats that are available on the Board, and after the AGM the Board will look to fill at least one of these seats with a suitable person.

The Board disused a complaint received about the selection process; this was discussed fully, and the Board stood behind the decisions made. It is never easy to deal with personal conflicts, expectations and outside influences so this provided the Board an opportunity to review several processes and learn from this situation, assisted by the feedback received.

Sport New Zealand reporting was due in by the end of April, and this was done online through the Partner Portal. This always provides a great opportunity to reflect on the past year and look at what progress has been made. A part of the reporting entails a break down of membership numbers and it was pleasing to see that, even with Covid 19, our overall membership was only down by 2! A breakdown of the membership data and other reporting information and findings will be supplied at the AGM Conference.

Gary and Nicky gave an update on the tours that were due to happen - with the NZ Open Men's and Ladies teams due to fly out the following week and the Under 21's and Juniors also due to head off to Australia over the next few weeks. New Zealand was advised of a change of venue for the Under 21's test series due to flooding in Australia and the new venue being named as Coolah (which was an extra 4 hours travel). New Zealand was to contact Australia to ask that the Driffal Trophy (NZ vs AUS Men's) and the Bolstad Trophy (NZ vs AUS ladies) be played for in the ANZAC test series. At the conclusion of the tours Coach reviews will be carried out, and it was agreed that the Survey Money survey needed to be updated to the newer version (which allows all questions to be asked through the one survey).

Coaches will be asked for their plans for the 2023 / 2024 seasons so that invitations can be sent to any States or Countries. New Zealand Polocrosse has been advised of the change of dates for the World Cup, July 2024, which will still be hosted by South Africa. The Board agreed to extend the Open Team / World Cup management appointments (Coach, Manager and Selectors) through to the conclusion of the 2024 World Cup.

The Board approved for two NZ Umpires to attend the ANZAC series (Tony Schrafft and Dean Hamilton) and were expecting that a NZ umpire would also attend the Under 21's and the Junior competitions, as these were also International test series.

An update on the Junior Scholarships was given by Russell Tye, with host families being confirmed and jackets ordered. Players will be advised of the need for travel insurance – which NZ Polocrosse pays 50% of.

Financial reports were tabled, with accounts for payment being passed; Internet Banking for Business is working well. The Board agreed to forego the Carnival Levy from the Sponsors Carnival this year – this event made a profit of \$2,905.00. A funding resolution was passed for the Under 21's team for Uniform purchases; the application was made to Pub Charity for \$3,210.45 and was successful! Apart from the Board Secretary Honorarium payment, no other Board members claimed any reimbursements for the year.

The need for fundraising was discussed again – with an emphasis being on the World Cup, as this is only two years away and we have lost several funding opportunities due to Covid 19. A major push needs to be done for the Calf Scheme, as this is a great on-going fundraiser which can involve people outside of polocrosse; the horse trek also needs to be restarted. Expressions of Interest for Carnival dates and National Fixtures need to be called for to assist with planning of tournaments and events.

Kayla and Kyla continue to do a great job with Publicity and Andrew will arrange to meet with these ladies to further the opportunities that these ladies can utilise.

Covid is still a concern, with some players / management being affected prior to travelling; this will be an ongoing concern for all travelling teams.

The Board meeting concluded at 2.00pm with most members going down to the grounds (Otorohanga) to watch the final NZ Open team's practice.





## **NZ POLOCROSSE E-MAIL ADDRESS:**



Please ensure that ALL email communications with the New Zealand Polocrosse Board / New Zealand Polocrosse Secretary goes through the official g-mail address -

**New Zealand Polocrosse – Board Secretary & general e-mail:** [nzpolocrosse@gmail.com](mailto:nzpolocrosse@gmail.com) .

To get information and news to our wonderful Publicity ladies Kayla Murray and Kyla Zielinski please use the below email address and also copy the NZ Secretary in on the email if it is for carnival information (Flyers etc) -

**New Zealand Polocrosse Publicity:** [nzpolocrosse.publicity@gmail.com](mailto:nzpolocrosse.publicity@gmail.com)

## **ADVERTISING ON THE WEBSITE:**

Website advertising package includes your company logo on the rotating slider at the bottom of the main web page; your logo on the Sponsors page with a link to your website and a post on the NZ face book page promoting your company all for only \$250.00 for 12 months.

Please contact –

[nzpolocrosse.publicity@gmail.com](mailto:nzpolocrosse.publicity@gmail.com) or [nzpolocrosse@gmail.com](mailto:nzpolocrosse@gmail.com) to secure your space for the coming season.



## **PLAYER ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: National Teams –Tours and Players**

### **By Law 6.1: Eligibility To Represent New Zealand**

Any New Zealand player who has represented another country has a 2-year stand-down period before being eligible to represent New Zealand.

Any other Nationality, other than New Zealand, is required to be a permanent resident\* in New Zealand for 2 years before becoming eligible.

*\*Clarification - for any nationality, other than New Zealand, the person is considered eligible if they have made New Zealand their place of residence for the past two years - living / working / day to day life, as seen and recognised by others within our sport – namely the New Zealand Polocrosse Board.*

#### **6.1.1 New Zealand Junior & Intermediate Players:**

- a) Player must meet the eligibility criteria as per By-Law 6.
- b) Player must be a fully affiliated playing member at the time of selection.
- c) Player must have played in the current seasons Junior & Intermediates competition

#### **6.1.2 New Zealand Open Team Players:**

- a) Player must meet the eligibility criteria as per By-Law 6.1
- b) Player must be a fully affiliated playing member at the time of expressing interest
- c) Player must have played in the previous Roke & Rockwood competition and in the previous Inter Associations Championships plus two other carnivals in that same season

#### **6.1.3 World Cup Players:**

To be eligible for World Cup selection a player must meet the New Zealand Open Team Player eligibility criteria and must

- a) Play at 50% of the calendared carnivals in the season prior to the team being named
- b) Meet the selection criteria as laid down by the New Zealand Coach and New Zealand Polocrosse Board

#### **6.1.4 Exemptions**

That the NZ Polocrosse board has the discretion to approve exemptions to the criteria on a case-by-case basis.

A list of exemptions to be supplied by the NZPX Board, may include but is not limited to Covid 19, Pregnancy, Illness, Injury, extenuating circumstances such as loss of a spouse, child, parent etc.

The selector / coach has no authority to make exemptions to a player's eligibility this needs to sit solely with the Board as this protects both players and the selectors from conflicts of interest and public criticism